

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A metal golf clubhead having a strike face which has a loft angle α of greater than 45° , said strike face having a plurality of parallel, substantially horizontal grooves wherein the strike face has comprises means for increasing ball spin, including a surface roughness Ra of less than 0.25 micrometre, and a Vickers hardness of greater than 5 GigaPascal.

2. (Previously Amended) The golf clubhead according to Claim 1, wherein the surface roughness Ra of the strike face is less than 0.15 micrometre.

3. (Previously Amended) The golf clubhead according to Claim 1, wherein the strike face is maraging steel.

4. (Previously Amended) The golf clubhead according to Claim 1, wherein the strike face is a ceramic composition.

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5. (Previously Amended) The golf clubhead according to Claim 4, wherein the ceramic composition is selected from the group consisting of silicon carbide, boron carbide, titanium carbide, zirconia, alumina, and combinations thereof.

6. (Previously Amended) The golf clubhead according to Claim 1, wherein the Vickers hardness of the strike face is greater than 12 GigaPascal.

7. (Previously Amended) The golf clubhead according to Claim 1, wherein the surface roughness Ra of the strike face is greater at the bottom of the strike face than at the top thereof.